

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A note ~~[[(1,17)]]~~ such as a banknote or security note, ~~said note (1,17) the note~~ comprising a substrate having a zone of reduced thickness ~~[[(2,7,18)]]~~ forming a transparent window in ~~said substrate, characterised in that the substrate, wherein~~ the note further comprises reinforcing means ~~(3,4,8,10,11,14,19,20,22)~~ to increase the resistance of ~~[[said]]~~ zone.

2. (currently amended) A note as claimed in claim 1, ~~characterised in that said wherein the~~ substrate is made of a paper substrate.

3. (currently amended) A note as claimed in claim ~~1 or 2, characterised in that said 1,~~ wherein the reinforcing means comprise at least a strip of material ~~(3,8,10,14,19)~~ covering at least ~~[[said]] the~~ zone of reduced thickness on at least one side of ~~[[said]] the~~ substrate.

4. (currently amended) A note as claimed in claim 3, ~~characterised in that said wherein the~~ strip of material is a transparent polymer material.

5. (currently amended) A note as claimed in claim ~~1 or 2, characterised in that said ,~~ wherein the reinforcing means comprise a patch ~~(4,11,20,22)~~ of material covering at least ~~[[said]] the~~ zone of reduced thickness, ~~[[said]] the~~ patch being formed by a partially demetallized OVD patch placed on at least one side of ~~[[said]] the~~ note.

6. (currently amended) A note as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims, characterised in that said claim 1, wherein the~~ reinforcing means further comprise an additional security feature ~~[[(9,15,23)]]~~.

7. (currently amended) A note as claimed in ~~one of the preceding claims, characterised in that said claim 1, wherein the~~ reinforcing means ~~[[(9,15,23)]]~~ are placed on both sides of ~~[[said]] the~~ note.

8. (currently amended) A note as claimed in ~~one of claims 3 to 7, characterised in that~~ claim 3, wherein the reinforcing means comprise a strip ~~[[(14)]]~~ on one side of ~~[[said]]~~ the substrate and a patch ~~[[(11)]]~~ on the other side of ~~[[said]]~~ the substrate.

9. (currently amended) A sheet of substrate ~~(16) characterised by further comprising a~~ plurality of notes as defined in ~~any of claims 1 to 8~~ claim 1.

10. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ A process for producing notes, such as banknotes or security notes, ~~[[said]] the~~ notes comprising a substrate having a zone of reduced thickness forming a transparent window in ~~[[said]] the~~ substrate, ~~[[said]] the process being~~ characterised by comprising the step of covering at least ~~[[said]] the~~ zone on at least one side of ~~[[said]] the~~ substrate with reinforcing means.

11. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ A process according to claim 10, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ it comprises the step of covering ~~[[said]] the~~ zone with reinforcing means on both sides of ~~[[said]] the~~ substrate.

12. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ A process according to claim ~~10, wherein the~~ 11, ~~characterised in that said~~ reinforcing means comprise at least a strip or a patch of material.

13. (currently amended) ~~Process~~ A process according to ~~one of claims 10 to 12,~~ claim 10, wherein it further comprises the step of providing said reinforcing means with an additional security feature.